

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (original): A method for controlling a tablet press, whereby powder or granular material is compressed in dies arranged circumferentially in a rotary die table by means of reciprocating punches, said method comprising the steps:

consecutively supplying a quantity of material to be compressed into each die,  
subjecting the quantity of material located in each die to a pre-compression and subsequently a main-compression,  
measuring, during the pre-compression of the quantity of material located in each die, a value of a first parameter representative of the weight of the quantity of material fed into the die,  
measuring, during the main-compression of the quantity of material located in each die, a value of a second parameter representative of the hardness of the tablet resulting from the compression,  
regulating the quantity of material supplied to each die on the basis of a deviation between a previously measured value of the first parameter and a first set value, and  
regulating the degree of compression that the quantity of material located in each die is subjected to during main-compression on the basis of a deviation between a previously measured value of the second parameter and a second set value.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein said compression degree regulation is performed substantially independently of said ~~powder~~-quantity of material regulation.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein said compression degree regulation and said ~~powder~~-quantity of material regulation are interrelated.

Claim 4 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein said compression degree regulation in addition is performed on the basis of a measured value of the first parameter.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~powder~~-quantity of material regulation is based on a mean value of several single measured values of the first parameter, and said compression degree regulation is based on a mean value of several single measured values of the second parameter.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method according to claim 5, wherein the quantity of ~~powder~~-material fed consecutively into each die is maintained constant as long as said mean value of the first parameter falls within preset first correction tolerance limits, and wherein the degree of compression during main-compression of consecutive tablets is maintained constant as long as said mean value of the second parameter falls within preset second correction tolerance limits.

Claim 7 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the first parameter corresponds substantially to a thickness of a tablet during pre-compression of said tablet under substantially constant compression force.

Claim 8 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the first parameter corresponds substantially to the maximum compression force exerted by a punch on a tablet during pre-compression of said tablet to a predetermined tablet thickness.

Claim 9 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the degree of compression during main-compression is regulated by adjusting the final thickness to which the tablet is compressed.

Claim 10.(original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the second parameter corresponds substantially to the maximum compression force exerted on a tablet during main-compression of said tablet to a predetermined tablet thickness.

Claim 11 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the second parameter corresponds substantially to the time interval during which a tablet is compressed during main-compression of said tablet.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~powder~~ quantity of material regulation is re-calibrated periodically after ascertaining the weight

of a number of tablets ejected from the die table, determining the mean tablet weight of said tablets, and comparing said mean tablet weight with a desired tablet weight.

Claim 13 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein said compression degree regulation is re-calibrated periodically after ascertaining the hardness of a number of tablets ejected from the die table, determining the mean tablet hardness of said tablets, and comparing said mean tablet hardness with a desired tablet hardness.

Claim 14 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein compressed tablets having a measured first parameter value falling outside preset first rejection tolerance limits are separated automatically from the remaining tablets for rejection.

Claim 15 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein compressed tablets having a measured second parameter value falling outside preset second rejection tolerance limits are separated automatically from the remaining tablets for rejection.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method ~~according to claim 1~~ for controlling a table press having a plurality of dies, said method comprising the steps:

consecutively supplying a quantity of a first material to each die,  
subjecting the quantity of the first material located in each die to a first layer pre-compression and subsequently a first layer main-compression, during which first layer main-compression the first material is compressed to a preset thickness of a first layer of the tablet,

subsequently to the first layer main-compression, supplying a quantity of a second material to each die,

subjecting the quantity of material located in each die to a second layer pre-compression and subsequently a double layer main-compression,

measuring, during the first layer precompression, a value of a first parameter representative of the weight of the quantity of the first material compressed,

regulating the quantity of the first material supplied to each die on the basis of a deviation between a previously measured value of the first parameter for the first material and a first set value for the first material,

measuring, during the second layer precompression, a value of a first parameter substantially representative of the weight of the quantity of the second material compressed,

regulating the quantity of the second material supplied to each die on the basis of a deviation between a previously measured value of the first parameter for the second material and a first set value for the second material,

measuring, during the double layer main-compression, a value of a second parameter representative of the hardness of the total tablet resulting from said main-compression,

regulating the degree of compression that the total quantity of the first material and the second material located in each die is subjected to during the double layer main-compression on the basis of a deviation between a previously measured value of the second parameter for the total double layer tablet and a second set value for the double layer tablet.

Claims 17-33: (canceled).

**Kindly add the following new claim:**

Claim 34 (new):        A method for controlling a table press having a plurality of dies, said method comprising the steps:

                             consecutively supplying a quantity of a first material to each die,

                             subjecting the quantity of the first material located in each die to a first layer pre-compression and subsequently a first layer main-compression,

                             subsequently to the first layer main-compression, supplying a quantity of a second material to each die,

                             subjecting the quantity of material located in each die to a second layer pre-compression and subsequently a double layer main-compression,

                             measuring, during the first layer pre-compression or the first layer main-compression, a value of a first parameter representative of the weight of the quantity of the first material compressed,

                             regulating the quantity of the first material supplied to each die on the basis of a deviation between a previously measured value of the first parameter for the first material and a first set value for the first material,

                             measuring, during the second layer pre-compression, a value of a first parameter substantially representative of the weight of the quantity of the second material compressed,

                             regulating the quantity of the second material supplied to each die on the basis of a deviation between a previously measured value of the first parameter for the second material and a first set value for the second material,

                             measuring, during the double layer main compression, a value of a second parameter representative of the hardness of the total tablet resulting from said main-compression,

regulating the degree of compression that the total quantity of the first material and the second material located in each die is subjected to during the double layer main-compression on the basis of a deviation between a previously measured value of the second parameter for the total double layer tablet and a second set value for the double layer tablet.